



INFORMATION ON KIC AND FOODBEST

KIC: Knowledge and Innovation Community.

Foodbest – Integrating **B**usiness, **E**ducation, **S**cience and **T**echnology for the **food** sector.

What is a KIC?

A KIC is a European effort to stimulate innovation, research and education in Europe, and to address grand societal challenges faced by Europe. A KIC is the operational part of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) which was established in 2008 to increase sustainable European competitiveness and growth by reinforcing the innovation capacity of the EU.

In 2010, EIT established three KIC's within ICT, Energy and Climate, each of which consists of 6 European regions (co-location centres) that gather the strongest companies and universities within each area. The budget for a KIC is approx. 100-150 mill Euro per year of which 25 % is funded by the EU (EIT) and the remaining 75 % is funded by companies and universities, states and municipalities, other EU programs and private funds.

A KIC is to set focus on the knowledge triangle: Innovation, research and education; turn global challenges into advantages and business opportunities; arise from integrated, excellence driven and creative partnerships; and improve the transition from idea to product – from lab to market – from student to entrepreneur. The EIT evaluates KIC's from a set of key performance indicators and selection criteria.

A KIC is a "highly integrated, creative and excellence-driven partnership which brings together the fields of education, technology, research, business and entrepreneurship in order to produce new innovations and new innovation models that inspire others" (EIT).

The next round of KIC's is expected in 2014, and the thematic areas are expected to be launched after the Horizon 2020 budget negotiations in spring 2013.

What is Foodbest?

Foodbest is a European consortium working to establish the strongest candidacy for a Food4Future KIC consortium, to lift food and innovation to an EU prioritized effort, and to secure a Food4Future KIC call from EIT.

Foodbest is industry driven, and important companies from Europe are already committed. Foodbest seeks to involve the most innovative companies and universities in Europe to turn global challenges into business opportunities, increase competitiveness and stimulate economic growth. Global issues such as a growing world population, nutritional deficiency and obesity require an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to finding innovative solutions.

A Food4Future KIC will focus on excellence driven business, research and education and make Europe the natural choice for world leading companies.

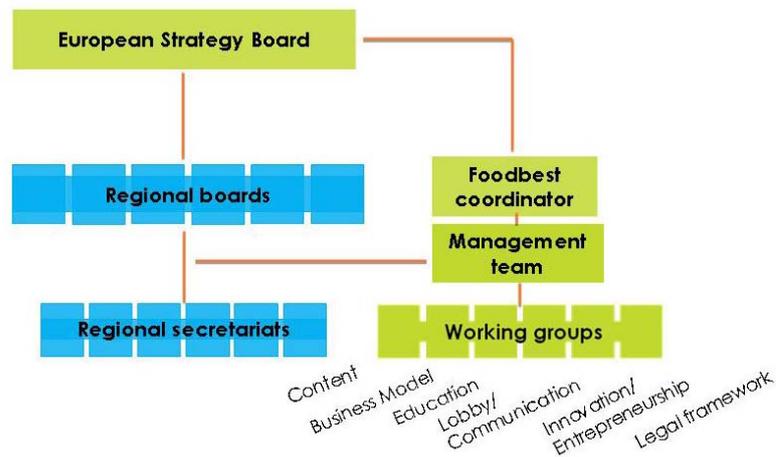
Foodbest is turning global food challenges within 'Food & Health', 'Food Security' and 'Sustainability' into food business opportunities.

Six European regions (nodes) collaborate to create a strong European platform of excellence within food innovation: Denmark/Sweden, France/Spain, Italy, The Netherlands/Belgium, United Kingdom/Ireland, and Germany/Austria/Switzerland.

Organisation of Foodbest

The governance structure of Foodbest secures a strong consortium and applies the best prerequisites for a Food4Future KIC application.

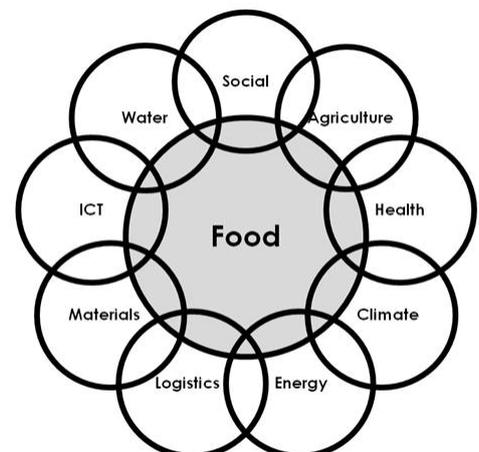
Foodbest
Governance and organising capacity



The European Strategy Board is the strategic body of Foodbest, and the Management Team is the operational and coordinating body, that among other tasks is in charge of coordinating the six working groups. European activities are to be coordinated by the Foodbest international coordinator. Regional secretariats in each European region are key drivers for regional efforts, of which establishment of and support to Councils and Council Boards are important tasks.

Stakeholders in a wider perspective

A wide range of stakeholders are involved in Foodbest. Focus is on the entire value food chain and inter-disciplinary collaboration is essential to add value to food production, to stimulate development of innovation models and create public private partnerships across Europe and globally.



Business driven content in a Food4Future KIC

Company needs and university excellences across the entire value food chain have designed the expected content in a Food4Future KIC. The 'Business Opportunity Areas' are focal points, and will deliver sustainable and competitive solutions to global challenges faced by the food area within 'Food & Health', 'Food Security' and 'Sustainability'. The content of a Food4Future KIC will target a business driven agenda, and contribute to increased competitiveness on a global level and increased economic growth.

Foodbest in Denmark and Sweden

Foodbest DK/SE is managed by a secretariat with offices in Copenhagen and Lund. Several persons from the secretariat are centrally placed within the European Foodbest governance structure.

The association Foodbest Council DK/SE was established June 13, 2012, and is responsible for the Danish-Swedish node. Through Foodbest Council DK/SE, companies, universities and other relevant institutions have a strong platform for collaboration and influence. Membership offers the possibility of directly influencing the process and the shaping of a future Food4Future KIC. A membership also carries voting rights at the association meetings, including election of the board, the chairman and other key persons. Members of Foodbest Council encompass important strategic knowledge of importance to a Food4Future KIC, and they hold essential competences and knowledge in relation to the industry driven Business Opportunity Areas that represents the content of a Food4Future KIC.

The prioritized Business Opportunity Areas is a prerequisite for sustainable economic growth and stimulation of innovation and entrepreneurship in Denmark and Sweden.

From Foodbest to a Food4Future KIC

Foodbest is at present in phase 2. In focus is commitment from important stakeholders, lobbying, development of content, and creation of a solid business and excellence driven foundation for a Food4Future KIC proposal.

